

A GOOD BILL

To be introduced in the coming session of the Missouri legislature which is intended to put a curb on so-called "bankrupt sales" or "fire sales" or "receiver's sales," which go far to unsettle the business interests of the smaller towns and cities of the state. It is known as the "Bulk Sales Law" and its principal requirement is that a merchant who desires to sell out his stock and business in bulk to one purchaser, must give notice of such intention a specified number of days in advance, to all wholesalers or manufacturers to whom he is indebted. The proposed law does not give the wholesalers any lien on such stock of goods but merely gives them sufficient notice that they may take such steps under existing laws as will protect them if the sale is fraudulent or intended to evade payment for the goods. Where there is no desire or intention to defraud, the law does not apply. Where no creditors are defrauded there is no one to take advantage of the law.

Hardly a week passes but the wholesalers of a large market learn that some recent purchaser of a stock of goods has sold it between two days to his "brother-in-law" or his "uncle" and has then left for parts unknown. That purchaser being, in the eyes of the present laws, an "innocent purchaser" cannot be held and the loss to the wholesalers is total.

The worst effect of such fraudulent transfer is however to the retail merchant of the smaller towns and the cities in which the sale took place. Immediately after the "brother-in-law" or "uncle" takes over the stock he puts up a four foot high sign "bankrupt sale" or may be it is a "receiver's sale" or "fire sale" and the goods are offered at half price until they are gone and the "uncle" goes over to the next town and a new store is started and sold out in bulk and then slaughtered.

The result to the honest merchants of a town are very disastrous. The public, buying \$3.50 shoes, (honestly sold at such a price) for \$1.75 at the bankrupt store, concludes that the honest merchants of the town have been making exorbitant profits and business is settled for months.

Convinced that the home merchants are gougers, the townspeople having no "bankrupt stocks" to draw from, buy cheap quality goods offered at apparently close prices by mail from the catalogue houses in the big cities. This sends money away from home, which never gets back and the legitimate, fair-dealing merchants of the town find their business dwindling to nothing, in spite of the fact that they have all along sold their merchandise at a fair profit, that they stood behind it, that they had the goods in stock to be shown and that they had paid the principal part of the taxes of their town and have been the men who have supported all of the charities and churches and schools and kept the town alive and helped to support the lawyers and doctors and plumbers and bakers and butchers and millinery and fleming of the town.

The proposed Bulk Sales Law has been endorsed by representatives of the Missouri Retail Ass'n, which association is composed of different retail organizations all over this state, as well as other important bodies of business men, commercial clubs, etc.

Petitions to the legislature and letters to individual members of the legislature and to senators will go far to bring about this meritorious and highly important law. It is now in effect, and satisfactorily working, in the protection of retailers in all but five of the states of our union and Missouri is one of the five.

Getting Eggs in Winter

Keep the hens busy if you would get winter eggs. The hen that eats her fill and goes back on the roost will not lay many eggs during the winter. The science of feeding has been worked out by many of the expert stations and colleges, but nowhere better than at Cornell University. Prof. Charles A. Rogers, in an address to Connecticut poultrymen, explained their method of feeding which has given some wonderfully good records, says Farm and Home.

In the morning the hens are fed 2 1/2 to 3 pounds mixed grains for 100 Leghorns. At noon green feed or green cut bone is given and the hoppers of dry mash are opened. At night they are fed seven to eight pounds of mixed grain. Grit and oyster shell are kept before them at all times. By giving a light feed of grain in the morning in deep litter the hens are kept hungry and will scratch all day for it. They should eat from one-third to one-half as much dry mash as hard grain.

SOIL GETS HUNGRY TOO

Dairy Farming Gives the Ground Much Needed Food.

Of all animals kept on the farm the dairy cow is the most eminent. She is the farmer's highest trump card in building up the fertility of his soil. Many eastern dairymen have attempted to set the milk producing end of the business over against the crop growing end and from the unwelcome assaults have come the growing recognition of the fact that plants and animals—dairy cows and grain and forage crops—are economically inseparable. In its best estate the dairy farm produces the food for the cows, writes an expert in Farm and Home. One cannot neglect the growing forage and grain crops and find his largest return through a highly specialized dairy business.

The greatest question before the dairy farmer today is that of growing suitable food crops and its reciprocal effect upon the fertility of his farm. The great need of a wider growth of forage crops is shown by the present tendency toward the depletion of available fertility. In many cases we are growing too little and buying too much, both of feed and fertility.

Many dairymen buy tons of commercial feedstuffs, not to supplement but to piece out the home-grown supply. To buy feeds which will balance up the deficiency of protein in the home-grown supply is entirely proper, providing the right kind is purchased. Feeds like cottonseed meal, oil meal and gluten which possess a high fertilizing value are the real supplements, as they usually supply the compounds that are deficient on dairy farms.

Stable manure and the roots and stubble of the legume and grain crops turned under will liberate sufficient potassium. Phosphorus is the one element that is most likely to be deficient. It is supplied in limited quantities by stable manure, but that source is inadequate. Acid phosphate mixed with manure before it is applied will make up the deficiency on this element. Its use pays handsomely on the average dairy farm.

HIGH PRICES AND HIGHWAYS

Good Roads Reduce the Cost of Living for All.

Poor highways contribute to the high price of farm produce to the consumer, for transportation charges enter into the ultimate cost of every article of food produced on the American farm. The influence of roads on prices reflects not only upon the man who raises the product and transports it to market, but on the consumer as well. This is one reason why highway improvement has become a state and national issue, says Farm and Home. It is one reason why country roads should be constructed and maintained out of the general funds of the public instead of by assessment against adjoining property or from strictly local sources.

The average cost per ton per mile for transporting goods on American highways is 23 cents; in France and other European countries it costs 2 to 11 cents. The greatest obstacle to highway improvement in many states is the manner in which public money has frequently been expended, and the fear that large sums will be spent without securing adequate permanent results. Whenever the American taxpayer has reasonable assurance that public funds will be efficiently expended he shows an increasing willingness to be taxed.

Unfavorable Soils.

Clay soils are unfavorable to vegetation because the soil is too close and adhesive to allow the free passage of air or water to the roots of the plants. It also obstructs the expansion of the fibres of the roots. Sandy soils are unfavorable because they consist of particles that have too little adhesion to each other. They do not retain sufficient moisture for the nourishment of the plants. They allow too much solar heat to pass to the roots. Chalk soils are unfavorable because they do not absorb the solar heat, and are, therefore, cold to the roots of the plants.

Indicates Sour Soil.

If any one of the several kinds of sorrel is found growing on a piece of land it is pretty safe to assume that the soil is sour and needs sweetening with an application of lime. Besides this, it may be that the tract is not properly drained, in which case it should be tilled in addition to being sweetened.

Wary Thought.

Don't put too fine a point to you wit for fear it should get blunted—Cervantes.

Conclusive Evidence.

"What evidence have you?" the magistrate asked a woman. "I have brought my black eye," she replied.

ALWAYS SUCH CHUMS

By NEWTON BUNGEY.

Denis Hewitt was lounging ungracefully but comfortably in a deck chair under the drooping branches of a blossom-laden chestnut tree when Mary Lidiard crossed the lawn, swinging a putter in her right hand.

Through his half-closed eyes Hewitt gazed at her critically, and he could not help admitting that she made the fairest of pictures. The breeze caught her curls, and with the sunlight turned them into a shimmering sea of gold. A simple, well-cut gown of some soft, white material showed the grace of her figure as she walked. Her eyes shone with an unmistakable light as their gaze fell on Hewitt.

"Tell me again that you love me, Denis," she whispered.

"I love you, dear," he answered.

"I shall always be hearing you say that," she said in low tones later as she turned to go into the house to pack for a few days' visit at a friend's house. "You'll write to me often, won't you, Denis?"

Hewitt winced as though he had been stabbed. Several times he had thought that while she was away he would write and tell her the truth—that he did not love her. But he was too much of a coward to tell her to her face and see those deep blue eyes grow heavy with misery.

Somehow it seemed quite a natural thing for a man to love a woman and she not to love him, but for a woman to love a man who did not care in the same way for her—it seemed nothing short of brutal.

At length in one of her letters Mary wrote the following paragraph: "I can't help thinking, Denis, that your letters seem as though they are written with an effort, and it makes me fear that what I have thought before is really true. It seems dreadful to doubt you, dear, but it would be more dreadful to let matters reach an irrevocable stage and then to doubt."

"We have always been chums, Denis, and now we are promised for something deeper than friendship. Can you say from the bottom of your heart that this is what you desire?"

"Perhaps I am wrong in doubting you; but if I am not, oh, please do not hesitate to say so. Don't think you will be doing the right and honorable thing by masking your real feelings."

How had she guessed? He had tried so hard to be all he was supposed to be.

He wanted her, and yet there was something missing, and she had recognized it.

He felt so ashamed of himself, so ignominious. He would have given the world to have been able to answer Mary's letter as a true lover would have done, but instead he wrote:

"You were right to doubt me, Mary. There is no woman on earth I care for like you, but it is not the love a man should feel for his future wife. It is cowardly to fly to excuses, but I shall always feel that our parents were responsible—they rushed us into the engagement."

"What will you think of me, Mary? We have always been such chums, and now I am refusing the best gift that the world could give me. It makes me feel so mean and contemptible, dear; but, as you say, it will be better to sever while we have the chance."

"I don't suppose you will see me again for a long time. I shall go away somewhere—I don't care where—but I feel that I want to hide."

He walked down to the village post-office and posted the letter himself. Then he turned away and walked slowly down a lane, his head bent in thought, trying to picture the future without Mary.

He slept badly that night for thinking of Mary. He began to feel that, though they were not to be husband and wife, he did not want to lose her.

Next morning he thought of her reading the letter, and he felt he would have given anything had he not written it or been able to regain possession of it ere it reached her hands.

His thoughts were interrupted by the arrival of a servant with a telegram. Tearing it open, a groan broke from his lips as he read:

"Come at once. Mary M. LIDIARD."

And in that moment Denis Hewitt knew he loved Mary, and hastened to her bedside.

He seemed to wait an eternity outside the door of the room. He did not see the nurse who watched him curiously, and he scarcely saw Mr. and Mrs. Lidiard as they came out of the room.

Then he entered, his gaze riveted on the thin, white face framed in a mass of golden hair.

"Mary," he said huskily; "oh, Mary!"

Then he stumbled forward and knelt at the bedside, holding her frail hand and gazing beseechingly into her eyes.

"I'm glad you've come, Denis," she said.

"I wanted to see you so much."

Then that half-wistful, half-puzzled expression came into her eyes as she gazed at him, and he winced.

Still holding her hand, he rose to his feet, and as he did so his gaze fell on the table alongside the bed. On it lay some letters, unopened, and one of them was his.

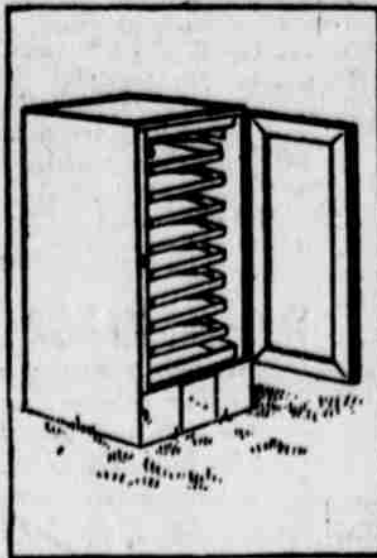
His eyes suddenly lit up with joy, and he turned to Mary with such a transfigured face that she watched with wonder.

"My Mary!" he exclaimed passionately, seating himself beside her and putting his arms around her shoulders. "My own dear love!"

CASE FOR SPROUTING GRAIN

Cabinet Contains Shelves for Planting Seeds—Fertilizer Tray Below Water Reservoir.

Two Missouri men have designed what appears to be a very complete cabinet for the sprouting of grain or other seeds. A series of shelves on which the seeds are kept slide in and out. In the sides of the cabinet are hot air passages and means for controlling the flow of air through them. At the top is a reservoir containing water and leading down from this are a number of pipes with perforations along their inner surface. There is also a fertilizer tray below the water



Grain Sprouting Case.

reservoir. When the contents of the shelves need moistening, the water is turned on and sprayed through the holes in the pipes, the drippings falling into a lower reservoir. If a little extra heat is required, that can be turned on in an instant, while the fertilizer tray has a perforated bottom for sprinkling.

GLEANINGS FOR BEE LOVERS

Buckwheat Makes Fine Honey—Little Insects Are Beneficial to Orchard—Care in Moving.

(By A. JOSEPH.)

If you have the space and would plant buckwheat you will find it makes fine honey. Plant it late so it will bloom when all other flowers are gone.

Some people think bees destroy fruit, but that is not so. The birds pick the fruit and as a usual thing they bite at the ripest on the trees and when the bees find these fruits, they devour them and leave nothing but pit and skin. The damage to ripe fruit is never started by bees; and after being damaged by the birds it is useless for marketing and, if it is not removed from a sound fruit next to it, the one it touches will rot also.

Thus you see the bees are a benefit in the orchard.

In moving bees do not do so until the weather gets cold, too cold for them to leave the hive, or they will not stay. They will go back to the old location, unless moved a mile and a half or two miles. Then they will stay without any trouble; but if moved only a short distance in 24 hours the hives will be pretty well deserted.

As a general thing bees do not fly more than a mile or mile and a half and they become familiar with the surroundings within that distance.

DAILY NOTES

Poor cows are never clean. No dairy is ever too clean. Slow ripening of cream produces a bitter flavor.

Every rapid churn is a failure. It wastes butter fat.

Many a common cow can be made good with more feed.

Properly managed, dairying brings in a constant income.

With calves too low a temperature of feed causes scours.

The cow that gives much milk must have plenty to drink.

The best way to keep cows clean is to use plenty of bedding.

Keep the cows out of the chilling winds. There is no profit in a chill.

Do not excite the cows or expose them to stress of insects, flies or the weather.

It is said that the occupation of dairying is confining. If this is true, then it must be a good cure for loafing.

Dairy shows, fairs and all the exhibitions show us what has been done, and give us a glimpse of what may be done.

In dairying there is no excuse for the man who goes at it blindly to blame luck and weather for his failure.

Turn the separator with a steady and uniform hand and wash down with skim milk or water at the end of separation.

It is quite customary among dairymen to quit feeding calves skim milk when they attain the age of eight or nine months.

If you don't believe in keeping cows comfortable visit the stables of the men with the big cream check. That ought to convince you.

Butter for market wrapped in paper will always get the edge in price, and the expense is trifling. A quarter buys a big batch of better paper.

Throw away the first few streams of milk from the teats. This milk is very watery and of little value, and is quite apt to injure the remainder of the milk.

DEBUTANTE IS A BOY

Discovery Shocks Exclusive Circle of Victor Society When Girl Revealed to be a Boy.

Victor, Colo., Jan. 10.—The discovery was made today that Irene Monahan, aged 18, until recently a pupil in the high school, is a boy, although she always dressed in girl's attire.

The admission of the deception by the boy's parents has caused much excitement in Victor, as young Monahan has been prominent in the most exclusive circles of young people and has frequently been called the "most beautiful girl in Victor."

The boy was formally presented to Victor society at a fashionable dancing party last fall and at that time his picture was published in several Denver papers with the note that "Irene Monahan is one of Colorado's most charming debutantes of the year."

While attending the high school he was a general favorite among the students, was admitted to the most select girls' club and was especially popular among the boys.

Mrs. Monahan said today that she had permitted the deception because the boy refused to wear boy's clothes, and she thought it would do no harm to allow the disguise. The father admitted that he knew Irene was a boy but he had made it a practice not to interfere in the training of his children.

The boy declared that he would leave Victor rather than wear male attire.

"It's a lot more fun being a girl," he said.

TO PREVENT CORN DISEASE

Only Way to Control Smut is to Destroy Bolls and Avoid Use of Fresh Manure.

(By E. M. FREEMAN.)

Every farmer is familiar with corn-smut. The largest masses are sometimes over six inches in diameter and are usually found in the ear. Smut is also found in the tassel, on the leaves and stem, and even on the roots which hold the corn plant to the soil. The smut-mass is blackish, and is at first covered by a whitish film, which soon breaks and lets loose the spore-powder, which is blown about by the wind. In general, there are two ways by which the spores get back on the land, ready to infect the next year's crop. First, they may be scattered by the wind, or the smut-masses may be left on the field. Second, the smut-dust may get into the fodder and may pass through the alimentary canals of the cattle, without being injured, and may thus get into the manure pile. Or, again, the smut-masses may be thrown into the refuse or manure pile. In either case they may be carried back to the soil when the latter is manured. Now, it is an important fact that the smut spores not only may live through the winter in the manure pile, but they may actually increase in number by growth when the pile remains of proper temperature. Fresh manure containing smut is therefore very likely to increase smut in a corn field. The

smut may live for several years in a manure pile, but will gradually die out. For this reason, old manure is much better for fertilizer on a corn field than fresh manure.

In the spring the spores germinate, producing long chains of new spores, which are blown about in the wind and infect any growing part of the corn plant; producing, finally, smut-balls. The spores may live in the soil or in manure piles for years. This, of course, makes seed treatment useless; and the only way to control the smut is to destroy all smut-balls, when possible, to prevent them



Ear of Corn Reduced to a Smut-Mass.

from shedding their spores on the ground into the manure, and avoid placing fresh manure on corn land. Changing corn land from year to year also is beneficial.

Since the smut-masses that are left in a corn field may assist in spreading the disease, they should be cut out of the field during the growing season. They should, moreover, be cut out before they have fully opened up and spread their spores, and should be collected and burned. They should not be thrown on the manure heap or the refuse pile, thence to be carried back to the land.

Rotation of crops is valuable in preventing corn-smut. The reason for this is plain. The corn-smut in the soil will not live many years, and that which is in the soil will not damage any other farm crop. After several years, corn may again be planted, with less danger, since the smut in the soil will have at least partly died out.

Seed treatment has not been found to be of any use. The smut does not get into the seedling plant, as in the stinking smut of wheat, and hence seed treatment does not seem necessary.

The sugar corn seems to have more smut than the field corn, though no varieties even of the latter are known that are free.

Truest Moments.

Count always your highest moments your truest moments. Believe that. In the time when you were the greatest and most spiritual man or woman, then you were your truest self.—John Wesley.

First insertion January 10-21.

NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT.

Notice is hereby given to all creditors and others interested in the estate of Philip Leininger, deceased, that we, Charles Hammer and D. P. Dennis, Executors, of said estate, intend to make final settlement thereof at the next term of the Probate Court of Saline County, Missouri, to be held at the Court House in said County on the first Monday of March, 1913.

CHAS. HAMMER, D. P. DENNIS, Exrs.

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